



West Lafayette Beautification Award  
August, 2008

Bessie Ncube is the August, 2008 Beautification Winner. Although Bessie and her daughter, Lisa, have only lived at 2700 Covington for three years, monumental changes have been made to the landscape. The first task was removal of a large, dying tree and then renovation of the soil in the existing beds. New beds were carved out bordering the front walk, and a large corner garden featuring perennials, grasses, bulbs and evergreens was designed for the intersection of Covington and Barlow. After all these changes were made, nominations for this property started arriving in the Beautification Committee. You can imagine the dismay and distress when this colorful garden was dug up in clumps in September, 2007, for replacement of sidewalks and curbs at intersections in Barberry Heights. Bessie managed to save many of the perennials while the concrete work was being completed, but has added many new plants to the garden. She is especially proud of shasta daisies from her native Zimbabwe. Bessie has developed many friendships with neighbors who come over to see the next landscaping improvement and is very surprised by all the praise and attention. She believes that West Lafayette is the most friendly of all the communities she has lived in, here in Indiana and around the world.